

Holy Trinity Melrose Annual General Meeting 2020
Held on 31 January 2021

Treasurer's Summary for the End of Year Accounts to 30 September 2020

Given the year we have had with Covid-19 and the lockdown restrictions we have been very fortunate to only have a deficit between the Receipts and Payments of approximately £2,000. Although our receipts were down considerably we did manage to make savings in various areas of expense such as electricity and certain projects that have not been completed yet.

The Unit Trust Pool holdings that Holy Trinity hold have increased in value from September 2019 in the order of plus £11,000, this has the effect that the Accounts look healthier by around £9,000. We receive income from our holdings in the UTP and are unlikely to consider cashing in any of the shares we hold in the near future.

Although a number of people moved their giving to standing orders and others continued to make their weekly contributions by sending cash or cheques to the treasurer, since we were no longer allowed to meet on Sundays, income from our Congregational giving overall was down £9,000 for the year.

Charity giving through the Special Collections were up due to the Christmas Collections that went to the various charities that we supported last year which were Bethany, Aberlour and Christian Aid and the congregation have been extremely generous with donations of food and money to the foodbank which has, under Pip's guidance, provided continuing help to those in need and this need has grown over the months.

Fund-raising activities for the church have been greatly diminished, due to the restrictions in place, but the smartie tube donations broke all records raising over £1,000. Money was also received from the Christmas coffee morning, the car boot sales and a donation from the Music Festival committee. Thank you to all those who organised and contributed to these.

On the payments side we were able to save close to £7,000 this being mainly down to reduced electricity consumption, maintenance costs lower than budgeted for and help from the furlough scheme.

Looking forward to this current financial year, that we are well into already, I am pleased to be able to say that John Wood is in the process of taking over as Holy Trinity's new church treasurer. Please assist him all you can.

If you have seen our budget for this coming year you will see that we are forecasting a sizable loss of around £12,000.

This is due to two factors.

1. Income likely to down overall as we are expecting that most of our regular fund-raising activities will be unable to happen and the continuing loss from our regular income.
2. On the expenditure side we are hoping that the work on the side chapel that was agreed to go ahead last year will be completed and paid for.

In order to continue the online ministry that has been established by Pip and all involved in producing the online services it is planned to put in place the ability to livestream our services and events. It has been pleasing to see just how many people have been watching the services that have gone out, they reach people all round the UK and abroad as well.

I am pleased to say that Alexander Storie has agreed to be the Independent Examiner for Holy Trinity Church accounts in this coming year.

If you have not seen or had a copy of the End of Year Accounts for 2020 please request a copy but let us save our Forests where possible. As I am stepping down as Treasurer let me say thank you for all the help and support, especially from the Fabric and Finance committee, that I have received during my term of office.

John Barley

30.9.2020 for 31.1.2021